

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3199
ANSWERED ON:21.03.2007
ANTI RETRO VIRAL TREATMENT FOR AIDS PATIENTS
Owaisi Shri Asaduddin

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether 90% of the AIDS patients in the country are being treated and being given Anti Retroviral Treatment (ART) in the country by the doctors who have neither formal training nor expertise in HIV management;
- (b) if so, the details thereof;
- (c) whether the NACO has conducted any survey in this regard;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the infrastructure in the Government hospitals is not sufficient to meet the growing number of AIDS patients in the country; and
- (f) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) to (d): There are an estimated 5.2 million Persons Living with HIV/AIDS (PLHAs) in the country. At any point of time, based on their immunity status (CD4 Count less than 200/cu mm), nearly 10% PLHAs require Anti-retroviral Treatment (ART).

Government of India took a policy decision in 2004 to introduce provision of ART to eligible HIV/AIDS patients. Till date 107 ART Centres have been set up in medical colleges and district hospitals where more than 60,000 patients are getting treatment free of cost. In all these centers, the medical and paramedical staff are trained in accordance with the National Treatment Protocols.

(e) & (f): Under Phase-III of NACP (2007-12), 250 ART centers are proposed to be established with a capacity to treat 3,40,000 adults and children with HIV/AIDS. ART centers in hospitals of PSUs, Corporate Sector and selected NGOs will also be supported where trained doctors will provide treatment as per Government Guidelines.